Revival of HFC units

1288. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1089, given in Rajya Sabha on the 5th March, 1999 and state:

(a) whether the decision for revival of HFC units *viz.*, Durgapur and Haldia in West Bengal, publicly declared by the Prime Minister's Special Emissary, is being reversed;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) if not the exact status of revival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) A decision has already been taken by the Government to close/hive off the Haldia Fertilizer Project which could never be commissioned, while the revamp of the Namrup Unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) has however, been approved at a cost of Rs. 350 crore. Comprehensive rehabilitation proposal based on unit-wise techno-economic viability for the remaining units of HFC including Durgapur Unit is to be submitted to the competent authority in the Government and thereafter, for final sanction of BIFR.

Ban on sole selling agents of drugs

1289. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have banned appointment of sole selling agents for marketing bulk drugs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) its impact on the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Department of Company Affairs has issued Notification *vide* GSR 364(E) dated 27.4.2000 as amended by Notification No. GSR 749(E) dated 27.09.2000 in this regard. The reasons for issuing the notification have been mentioned therein.